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Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai



Royal cam: Top five albatross names

We received over 1,600 entries to our Royal cam 'Name the chick' competition. Thanks for all your creative suggestions! It was a hard job, but we've narrowed them down to the top five names:

- Arran
- Laidir
- Māia
- Raukura
- Tūmanako

[Read more about these names](#) and vote for your favourite. Voting closes 5 pm on Friday 30 June.



**Vote for your
favourite**

Update from Lou

In his latest update Director-General Lou Sanson talks about the Loder Cup and Green Ribbon Awards, the Fairfax Wasp Campaign, rare plants, shore plovers and Fieldays.

- [Read Lou's latest update](#)
- [Sign up to Lou's mailing list](#)

National Volunteer Week

National Volunteer Week has come to an end and we'd like to say thanks to all our volunteers. We've featured stories about some of the great [projects our volunteers are involved with](#) on our blog.

Find out how you can [volunteer for conservation](#).

Kākāpō Kingdom videos

Our Kākāpō Recovery Programme national partner Meridian Energy has developed two videos that work in tandem with our new [Kākāpō Recovery educational resource](#).

Use the videos alongside the resource to uncover why kākāpō are so important to New Zealand.

Get involved

Catlins conservation trip

Join DOC and Forest & Bird 14-16 July for a mid-winter weekend of [conservation in the Catlins](#).

The trip starts and finishes in Dunedin. You'll get to visit two special places in the Catlins that aren't usually open to the public - Te Rere and Otanomomo.



Habitat Heroes competition

[Habitat Heroes](#) encourages young people to explore a local natural environment and think about how they can make a difference. The competition is open until 29 September.

Identify plants and animals

Use the [NatureWatch website](#) to report your observations, and ask for help in identifying any species you find. It's a great place to meet other nature watchers and learn about New Zealand animals and plants.

Recreation

Dog access rules

If you walk your furry friends at conservation reserves, remember to keep your pets under control.

The current [rules for dog access on conservation land](#) vary depending where you're located.

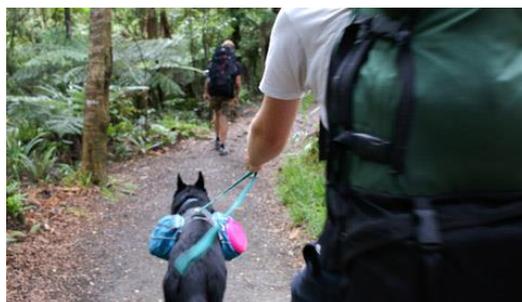
Changes to Taupō Fishery regulations

Significant changes to the [Taupō Trout Fishery regulations](#) will take effect from 1 July. Changes include new licence categories to make it more affordable for seniors and families, and increased bag limits to make fishing trips more rewarding.

Our nature

New black stilt aviary

[A new breeding aviary](#) for the world's rarest wading bird, the black stilt/kakī, is about to be built in the Mackenzie Basin near Twizel.



Public tip off leads to capture of marine reserve poachers

The work of a keen-eyed bystander led to a dramatic [marine reserve poaching apprehension](#) on Wellington's south coast in May. If you ever spot suspicious activity in a marine reserve call our 24 hour emergency hotline: 0800 DOC HOT (0800 362 468).

Pests and threats

Wilding pines on the way out of the Sounds

Funds from the DOC Community Fund are helping [eliminate wilding pines](#) from the outer Marlborough Sounds.

[Read more about our War on Weeds.](#)

Predator Free 2050 Ltd announces new CEO

Predator Free 2050 Ltd's board has announced the [appointment of Ed Chignell](#) to the new position of Chief Executive to help drive New Zealand towards the Predator Free 2050 goal.

Celebrating conservation achievements

Loder Cup winner

Prof. Peter de Lange was awarded the [2017 Loder Cup](#) for over 25 years contribution to investigate, promote, retain and cherish New Zealand's indigenous flora.



Green Ribbon Awards

Congratulations to the Whangawehi Catchment Management Group from Hawke's Bay. They've taken out the top prize at the 2017 Green Ribbon Awards for their stream restoration project.

[Read more about the 2017 winners and finalists.](#)

Photo of the month

Castle Rocks Hut in [Westland Tai Poutini National Park](#), overlooking the Franz Josef Glacier.

The park extends from the highest peaks of the Southern Alps/Kā Tiritiri o te Moana, to the rugged and remote beaches of the wild West Coast.

Photo: Lou Sanson [#DOCboss](#)

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